

[6 August, 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

SI.	State/UTs	Year 1999-2000
22.	Tamil Nadu	14
23.	Tripura	NIL*
24.	Uttar Pradesh	2*
25.	West Bengal	12*
26.	Pondicherry	NIL
27.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	NIL*
28.	Chandigarh	NIL
29.	Delhi	8
30.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	NA
31.	Daman & Diu	NIL
32.	Lakshadweep	NIL*
TOTAL :		93

NA-Information not available.

Information as on 31.3.99.

Privatisation of Health Sector

1561. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to privatize the Health Sector by introducing multinational companies;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the epidemic diseases, which had been treated as eradicated are appearing again; and
- (c) if so, the details of such diseases and the steps taken by Government to control such diseases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) No, Sir. Government is committed to the overall objective of providing healthcare services for all, with a focus on providing comprehensive primary health care.

(b) and (c) Small Pox and Guinea Worm are considered as having been eradicated. No cases of Small Pox and Guinea Worm have been reported since May, 1975 and July, 1996 respectively. Human Plague cases which were not being reported since 1966 were reported in the form of an outbreak in 1994. In

order to establish early warning signals for detection of disease outbreaks and take timely and appropriate action, the National Disease Surveillance Programme for Communicable Diseases is currently in operation in 80 districts of the country. This is proposed to be extended to the entire country during the 10th Plan period.

Recommendations of ICMR regarding marketing of drugs

1562. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Indian Council of Medical Research, last year, recommended marketing of the drugs under strict supervision;
- (b) the salient recommendations of the ICMR;
- (c) whether Government have implemented the same;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and No, Sir. ICMR recommended the marketing of the following three drugs during the last year without stipulating any special conditions:

1. Somatuline P.R. 30 mg. (prolonged release microspheres of lanreotide acetate).
2. Oral Contraceptive containing the fixed dose combination of Desogestrel and Ethinyl Estradiol.
3. Interferon alpha 2b and Ribavirin (ombi-packs).

(c) to (e) Does not arise in view of (a) & (b) above. These drugs are required to be marketed under the general norms pertaining to sale of drugs under the Drugs & Cosmetics Rules.

Diabetes affected children in Delhi

1563. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether diabetes has affected 5000 to 6000 children in Delhi;
- (b) whether the cost of insulin strips is high;
- (c) whether Government intend to bring down the cost of this drug; and